

Spurious Cement

3623. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of manufacturing of spurious cement have been unearthed in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the connivance of Government officials/Delhi Police with the mafia making spurious cement has come to light;

(c) if so, details in this regard; and

(d) the action taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. 8 cases of manufacture of spurious cement have been unearthed in Delhi during the year 1996 and 1997 (upto 28.2.97).

(b) No, Sir. A vigilance inquiry conducted into the matter did not substantiate the allegation of police connivance.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Forest Products

3624. SHRI NITISH BHARADWAJ : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether large scale trees are felling in almost every State in the country and poor people and adivasis are not being allowed to collect even the forest products and fuel for burning;

(b) if so, whether the most harassed people are adivasis belonging to Bihar; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken for creating the alternative source of fire wood for adivasis in the country who are not allowed to collect the forest products even for lighting their hearths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the States and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Reservation for OBCs in Promotions

3625. SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the candidates belonging to the Other Backward Classes are entitled for entry point reservation in Government service not entitled for reservation in promotion as is given to the candidates belonging to Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Judgement in Indira Sawhney and others Vs Union of India & others case have

stated that the reservation has no application to promotion for OBCs.

Self-Employment Scheme for OBCs in Uttar Pradesh

3626. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched Self-Employment Scheme for the people belonging to Other Backward Classes in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the amount provided as assistance to the unemployed youth under the scheme during 1996-97 so far; and

(c) the amount for which the provisions likely to be made for the year 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes Sir, National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) is implementing Self Employment Scheme through concessional loan in the State of Uttar Pradesh through State Channelising Agency (SCA).

(b) A total amount of Rs. 70.45 lakhs has been released by the NBCFDC to the State Channelising Agency (Uttar Pradesh) during the year 1996-97 for further disbursement to the identified beneficiaries.

(c) No State-wise allocation of funds is made by NBCFDC. However, the Corporation disburses loans to State Channelising Agencies against sanctioned schemes as per their demand and fulfilment of the conditions and availability of funds with the Corporation.

[English]

FCI's Training Institute

3627. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2454, dated August 1, 1996 and state :

(a) whether the construction work of FCI's Training Complex at Gurgaon has since been completed as the revised date of completion of the said work was December 31, 1996;

(b) if so, the reasons for not shifting the Training Institute of FCI, East of Kailash, New Delhi over there; and

(c) the time by which the Training Institute is likely to be shifted to Gurgaon?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The construction work of Training Complex of the Food Corporation of India at Gurgaon is in the process of completion and is expected to be ready for occupation by 1st August, 1997. The Training Institute shall be shifted from New Delhi to Gurgaon immediately thereafter.